

Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 /030 R

DRAFTED BY PA/PRESS:TRESTON:BAW
APPROVED BY PA/PRESS:TRESTON
S/S-O:SRPVALERGA
-----065720 180311Z /75

P 180228Z JUL 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 180845 TOSEC 080144

FOR HODDING CARTER FROM TOM RESTON

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: EVENING PRESS SUMMARY, JULY 17, 1978

WIRES

1. JIM ANDERSON OF UPI LED HIS STORY BY SAYING: "...
SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF
ISRAEL AND EGYPT ARRIVED IN ENGLAND MONDAY FOR TWO DAYS OF
MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS IN A HEAVILY GUARDED NINTH-
CENTURY CASTLE."

MUCH OF HIS ARTICLE DEALT WITH SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR
THE CONFERENCE ITSELF AT LEEDS CASTLE. HE ALSO WROTE:
"...STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HODDING CARTER III SAID
VANCE BELIEVES THE CONFERENCE HAS A LIMITED OBJECTIVE AND
THAT EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT WOULD HAVE TO PARTICI-
PATE IN DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE THERE CAN BE REAL
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PROGRESS." - -

2. BARRY SCHWEID, AP, LED HIS MIDDLE EAST PIECE BY WRIT-
ING: "THE UNITED STATES WILL URGE EGYPT TO SPELL OUT
SECURITY GUARANTEES FOR ISRAEL IN NEW MIDEAST PEACE TALKS
OPENING TUESDAY IN A MEDIEVAL FORTRESS IN SOUTH ENGLAND,
U.S. OFFICIALS SAID.,

SCHWEID ALSO SUMMARIZED AN ISRAEL NEWSPAPER REPORT ON THE

LATEST PEACE PROPOSALS BY EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT:

"...U.S. OFFICIALS SAID VANCE HOPES THAT SPECIFIC ASSURANCES FROM EGYPT -- PARTICULARLY ON HOW TO COPE WITH EXTREMISTS ON THE WEST BANK OF THE JORDAN RIVER -- COULD LEAD TO MATCHING ISRAELI CONCESSIONS.

"THE PURPOSE IS TO DRAW ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER MENACHEM BEGIN INTO AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT ISRAEL WILL WITHDRAW FROM THE WEST BANK, WON FROM JORDAN IN THE 1967 ;IDEAST WAR."

NETWORKS

1. CBS - ANCHORMAN MUDD

ANCHOR: THE PRINCIPALS IN THE LATEST ROUND OF MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS ARRIVED IN ENGLAND TODAY FOR TWO DAYS OF TALKS IN A HEAVILY GUARDED, MOOT-RINGED MEDIEVAL CASTLE EAST OF LONDON.

MARVIN KALB: THE SECURITY AT LONDON HEATHROW AIRPORT WAS EXTRAORDINARILY HEAVY--PERHAPS THE HEAVIEST EVER MOUNTED: IRISH GUARDS IN FULL BATTLE GEAR LINING ROOFTOPS, CARRYING RIFLES AND SUBMACHINE GUNS BACKED UP BY TANKS AND TROOP
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CARRIERS--EVERYONE ON ALERT AGAINST POSSIBLE TERRORIST ATTACKS DESIGNED TO DISRUPT THIS AMERICAN-SPONSORED RESUMPTION OF EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TALKS. ISRAEL'S FOREIGN MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN, FIRST TO ARRIVE, STRESSED HIS INTEREST IN THE CONCRETE ISSUES DIVIDING THE TWO OLD BELLIGERENTS.

DAYAN: "WE TRY TO DISCUSS, AND THIS IS OUR AIM, WHAT WILL REALLY TAKE PLACE ON THE GROUND -- WHAT WILL HAPPEN WITH GAZA, WHAT WILL HAPPEN WITH JUDEAH AND SOMALIA AND HOW ARE WE TO LIVE TOGETHER WITH THE PALESTINIANS? WHAT SHOULD BE THE ROLE OF THE EGYPTIANS, OR OF THE JORDANIANS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS? AND SO ON AND SO FORTH. TO TRY TO COME DOWN TO THE REALISTIC AND PRACTICAL ISSUES."

KALB: EGYPTIAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER'S MUHAMMAD KAMIL WAS NEXT TO FLY INTO LONDON. LIKE DAYAN, HE PROJECTED A POSITIVE IMAGE: EAGER FOR A SETTLEMENT BUT IT TAKES TWO, HE SAID, STRESSING EGYPTIAN'S WILLINGNESS TO STRIKE A DEAL.

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KAMIL: ,WE COME HERE WITH AN OPEN HEART AND AN OPEN MIND. WE ARE DETERMINED TO EXPLORE ALL AVENUES LEADING TO THE GOAL WHICH ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE AREA ARE LONGING FOR.

WE HOPE THAT THIS SPIRIT WILL BE RECIPROCATED BY THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT. IF THIS IS THE CASE, THEN WE SHALL BE ABLE TO ASSUME THE HEANINGFUL PROGRESS WE ALL HOPE FOR."

KALB: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE, HOST FOR THIS MEETING, ARRIVED AT AN OLD ROYAL AIR FORCE BASE. HE WANTS TO ISOLATE POINTS OF SIMILARITY IN EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI PEACE PLANS AND ONCE ISOLATED, BUILD UPON THEM ,N A PRO-CESS OF CONTINUING DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. ALL THREE DIPLOMATS WERE HELICOPTERED TO THIS EXQUISITE NINTH
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CENTURY CASTLE NEAR LEEDS IN KENT, ABOUT 45 MILES FROM LONDON. SECURE, IN FACT SERENE, THE CASTLE STANDS TWO ISLANDS IN THE MIDDLE OF A LAKE, CONNECTED TO LAND BY A SINGLE DRAWBRIDGE. IT'S BEAUTY, WITH A MAGIC INGREDIENT OF A BREAKTHROUGH; ONE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE IN THESE TWO DAYS OF TALKS.

2. ABC - ANCHOR PETER JENNINGS

ANCHOR: ...THE ATTENTION OVERSEAS NOW SHIFTS SOMEWHAT FROM THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT TO THE MEETING OF ARAB AND ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTERS IN ENGLAND TO;ORROW. IT IS BECAUSE OF A TERRORIST THREAT TO THOSE MEN THAT THE CONFERENCE, ORIGINALLY SET FOR LONDON, HAS BEEN MOVED TO AN ENGLISH COUNTRY CASTLE. SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE ARRIVED IN ENGLAND FROM BONN TODAY. THE UNITED STATES IS THE CATALYST FOR THE CONFERENCE. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF EGYPT AND ISRAEL AND ARE THERE AS WELL. JOHN LAURENCE HAS A REPORT TONIGHT ON HOW WELL THEY WILL PRESUMABLY BE PROTECTED.

LAURENCE: BRITISH SOLDIERS, POLICE, AND PLAINSCLOTHS DETECTIVES WERE OUT IN FORCE TODAY IN AN UNPRECEDENTED SHOW OF SECURITY STRENGTH. ANTICIPATING ANY KIND OF TERRORIST ATTACK, THE TROOPS EVEN BROUGHT OUT THEIR ARMOR. THE CHURCHILL HOTEL IN DOWNTOWN LONDON, ORIGINALLY CHOSEN FOR THE CONFERENCE, WAS REJECTED BECAUSE BRITISH OFFICIALS COULD NOT GUARANTEE THE SAFETY OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS THERE. THREE PROMINENT ARABS HAVE BEEN ASSASSINATED IN LONDON IN THE PAST 15 MONTHS, THE LATEST ONLY TWO WEEKS AGO. SO THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THIS NINTH CENTURY CASTLE IN THE REMOTE SOUTHEAST ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE IN KENT. SET ON AN ISLAND IN THE 20 ACRE LAKE, SURROUNDED BY A NATURAL MOOT AND WALLS OF STONE, ISOLATED BY 400 ACRES
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OF FOREST AND CONSTANTLY PATROLLED BY POLICE, LEEDS CASTLE APPEARS IMPREGNABLE. AN OFFICIAL SAID "WE COULD SURVIVE A SIEGE., ON THE EVE OF THE TWO-DAY MIDDLE EASTERN FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING, MOST OF BRITAIN'S POLICE FORCES ARE ON ALERT IN WHAT MAY BE THE MOST ELABORATE SECURITY PREPARATIONS FOR ANY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HERE SINCE WWII.

(LAURENCE REPORTED FROM KENT, LEEDS CASTLE.)

JENNINGS: WHEN THE EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTERS GET DOWN TO IT TOMORROW, IT WILL AGAIN NOT BE EASY TO REACH AGREEMENT, BUT IT WILL BE FIRST TIME IN SIX MONTHS THAT A SERIOUS FACE-TO-FACE EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO GET REAL PEACE TALKS BACK ON THE RAILS. FIRST, WITH A REPORT ON THE EGYPTIANS, HERE'S DOREEN KAYS:

KAYS: THE EGYPTIANS WERE THE FIRST TO ACCEPT THE AMERICAN INVITATION FOR ANOTHER FACE-TO-FACE MEETING WITH ISRAELIS. THEY AGREED IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT ISRAEL HAD NOT MET PRESIDENT SADAT'S PRIOR CONDITION OF NEW MORE FLEXIBLE PROPOSALS. ACCORDING TO FOREIGN MINISTER KAMIL, THE EGYPTIAN POSITION IS STILL ANCHORED TO UN RESOLUTION 242, ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED ARAB LAND. THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WILL ALSO BE STRESSED. THE EGYPTIANS HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THESE TALKS; ALL THEY ARE HOPING FOR REALISTICALLY IS AN AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE PEACE TALKS OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. PRESIDENT SADAT HAS AGREED TO THE LONDON TALKS MAINLY TO PROVE TO THE AMERICANS AND TO THE WORLD THAT EGYPT IS STILL PREPARED TO EXPLORE EVERY POSSIBLE AVENUE TOWARDS PEACE. (KAYS FROM LONDON)

BILL SEAMANS, LONDON: ON HIS ARRIVAL, ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN SAID THAT HE SAW SOME MEETING POINTS IN THE SEPARATE EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI PEACE PLANS THAT COULD LAY THE BASIS FOR CONTINUING THEIR NEGOTIATIONS, AND THAT IF
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THERE WERE NO PRE-CONDITIONS, DAYAN WAS READY TO CONTINUE

TALKING ANY TIME, ANY PLACE. HE SAID THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS RESUME WITHOUT DELAY, BUT HE GAVE NO INDICATION THAT ISRAELI WOULD GIVE UP MILITARY CONTROL OF THE WEST BANK OR ALLOW THE PALESTINIANS TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN FUTURE. FROM THE ISRAELI SIDE, IT APPEARS THAT THE MAIN RESULT EXPECTED HERE IN LONDON WOULD BE A DECISION TO CONTINUE DIRECT TALKS AT ANOTHER TIME AND ANOTHER PLACE. THIS IN ITSELF WOULD BE A SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARDS RESUMING THE MOMENTUM THAT HAS BEEN FALLING OFF SINCE THE POLITICAL TALKS ENDED IN JERUSALEM LAST JANUARY.

3. NBC - ANCHORMAN CHANCELLOR

ANCHOR: THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ISRAELIS ARE MEETING AGAIN TO TALK PEACE AGAIN -- THIS TIME FOR SAFETY REASONS IN A THOUSAND YEAR OLD CASTLE IN THE MIDDLE OF A LAKE IN

ENGLAND ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY AIR OR BY A DRAWBRIDGE TO MAKE SURE NO BOMB-THROWING TERRORISTS CAN GET IN. HERE IS BOB JAMIESON AT LEEDS CASTLE, ENGLAND:

JAMIESON: LONDON'S HEATHROW AIRPORT BRISTLED WITH SECURITY FORCES DURING THE ARRIVAL OF THE EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI DELEGATIONS. FOR THE FIRST TIME, BRITISH OFFICIALS DEPLOYED TROOPS AND POLICE TOGETHER, AMID FEARS OF TERRORIST ATTEMPTS TO DISRUPT THE MEETING. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS IGNORED THE SECURITY CONCERNS AND EACH ARRIVED HOPEFUL THAT THIS ROUND OF TALKS COULD FOCUS ON THE LATEST ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN PEACE PLAN AND END THE STALEMATE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT HAS EXISTED FOR MONTHS.

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DAYAN: I FOR ONE BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE SOME MEETING POINTS, IMPORTANT ONES, AND IF THIS WOULD PROVE RIGHT-CORRECT- THEN THERE WILL BE A BASIS FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS.

KAMIL: WE COME HERE WITH AN OPEN HEART AND AN OPEN MIND. WE ARE DETERMINED TO EXPLORE ALL AVENUES LEADING TO THE GOAL WHICH ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE AREA ARE LONGING FOR.

JAMIESON: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE WHO WILL PRESIDE OVER THE TALKS FLEW INTO AN AIRPORT NEAR LEEDS CASTLE, TO WHICH THE MEETING WAS MOVED YESTERDAY. THE CASTLE GROUNDS HAVE BEEN CLOSED TO ALL OUT OFFICIAL VISITORS SINCE LATE YESTERDAY. PLAY ON AN ADJOINING GOLF COURSE HAS EVEN BEEN SUSPENDED FOR MOST OF THE WEEK, AND BRITISH OFFICIALS HAVE CANCELLED LEAVES FOR ALL SPECIAL BRANCH POLICE WHO WILL GUARD THE VISITING DIGNITARIES. THE CASTLE SITS IN THE MIDDLE OF A LAKE. VANCE AND THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS WERE EXPECTED TO BEGIN THEIR DISCUSSIONS INFORMALLY TONIGHT. BUT US OFFICIALS SAID IN SPITE OF THE HIGH HOPES DURING THE ARRIVALS, THERE WILL BE NO MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH DURING THIS MEETING. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 sep 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE180845
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PA/PRESS:TRESTON:BAW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 NA
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780293-1388
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197807106/baaaezgp.tel
Line Count: 267
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bb70566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1857343
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EVENING PRESS SUMMARY, JULY 17, 1978
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bb70566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014